

International Workshop on TMD & Related Pain Conditions

The National Institute of Dental Research (NIDR), the National Institute for Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Disorders (NIAMS), and the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHCPR) cosponsored a workshop on Temporomandibular Disorders and Related Pain Conditions near Baltimore, Maryland, on April 17-21, 1994. The specific goals of the workshop included the following: development of research recommendations that would accelerate progress toward better understanding of TMD subsets (classification) and related pain conditions; assessment and summarization of the current state of knowledge on topics pertinent to TMD; and assurance that the recommendation and assessment of the current knowledge reflect a broad international perspective. The codirectors of the workshop were Dr Barry Sessle, dean of the University of Toronto School of Dentistry, and Dr Patricia Bryant, director of the Behavior, Pain, Oral Function and Epidemiology Program at NIDR.

The NIDR is expecting the workshop to play a pivotal role in the development of a comprehensive research agenda for TMD, providing a "blueprint" for new research initiatives. Also, they are hoping that it will help stimulate additional and expanded research collaboration. Accordingly, the audience consisted of approximately 100 participants, largely from Europe and North America, representing university research and clinical endeavors, recognized clinical experts, governmental agencies, and patient-advocate spokespersons. The

Academy of Orofacial Pain was well represented.

The workshop itself consisted of six working groups on muscle disorders, temporomandibular joint displacement and degenerative disorders, assessment and diagnosis, epidemiology and health sciences, basic science issues, and treatment issues. There were four plenary sessions that included the presentation of formal papers by internationally respected medical and dental scientists, reactors to the papers in each topic, and general discussion by the entire workshop. Following the plenary sessions, the six working groups individually met to develop consensus reports that included a prioritized list of the research recommendations to the workshop. Finally, after many exhausting hours, the working groups presented their recommendations and conclusions at the general session.

Closing remarks were made by Dr Barry Sessle; Dr Ronald Dubner, director of the NIH pain clinic; and Dr Harold L e, outgoing director of NIDR. Dr L e had just returned from a congressional hearing where he presented an enthusiastic delivery on the importance of funding for research in TMD and orofacial pain. He received a standing ovation for his years of excellent leadership and achievements in research as director of the International Institute of Research. Dr Pat Bryant and her staff deserve special recognition for their efforts with the organization for a very productive workshop. The workshop will be published by NIH in the near future. Be sure to look for the announcement.—*Charles McNeill*

Call for Papers: 1995 AAOP Annual Meeting

The 1995 Annual meeting of the American Academy of Orofacial Pain will be held at Disney's Yacht and Beach Club Resort, Orlando, Florida, on February 15-17. The theme of the meeting is "The Scientific Basis for Clinical Decision Making."

Clinicians and basic scientists are encouraged to submit papers for poster presentations. The subject matter should include but is not limited to the following areas related to orofacial pain and masticatory function: (1) prevalence, progression, and societal impact; (2) diagnostic, clinical, and experimental characteristics; (3) pathophysiology and mechanisms of pain dysfunction; and (4) efficacy and techniques of management.

The deadline for submission of abstracts and application is October 1, 1994. Applications for submission of abstracts can be obtained from:

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